

with the grease supply passage and open to the pumping chamber, a threaded stem located in said threaded hole, said stem having at least one linear side groove open to the pumping chamber, and a head joined to said stem, said head and stem when rotated in one direction opens the side groove to atmosphere whereby air in the pumping chamber and grease supply passage is bled therefrom and replaced with grease, and said head and stem when rotated in a direction opposite the one direction closes the threaded hole to prevent grease from flowing out of the threaded hole and air from flowing into the pumping chamber.

7. (Amended) [The grease gun of Claim 1 wherein:] A grease gun having a body, a base joined to the body, a barrel joined to the body, a grease dispensing member connected to the barrel, an elongated grease pumping chamber located in said body and barrel, a grease supply passage in said base and body open to said pumping chamber to allow grease to flow into the pumping chamber, a check valve connected to said barrel to prevent grease and air from flowing back from the grease dispensing member into the pumping chamber, a plunger located in said grease pumping chamber, a power unit connected to said body and plunger operable to reciprocate the plunger in said pumping chamber to pump grease through said pumping chamber and check valve into the grease dispensing member, means mounted on the base for supplying grease to the grease supply passage, the improvement comprising: a threaded hole in said body aligned with the grease supply passage and open to the pumping chamber, a threaded stem located in said threaded hole, said stem [has] having an inner end adjacent the pumping chamber and an outer end joined to said head, said stem having at least one linear side groove open to the pumping chamber, said side groove extended [form] from the inner end of the stem about halfway to the outer end thereof, and a head joined to said stem, said head and stem when rotated in one direction opens the side groove to atmosphere whereby air in the pumping chamber and grease supply passage is bled therefrom and replaced with grease, and said head and stem when

rotated in a direction opposite the one direction closes the threaded hole to prevent grease from flowing out of the threaded hole and air from flowing into the pumping chamber.

9. (Amended) A grease gun having a body, a base joined to the body, a barrel joined to the body, a grease dispensing member connected to the barrel, an elongated grease pumping chamber located in said body and barrel, a grease supply passage in said base and body open to said pumping chamber to allow grease to flow into the pumping chamber, a check valve connected to said barrel to prevent grease and air from flowing back from the grease dispensing member into the pumping chamber, a plunger located in said grease pumping chamber, a power unit connected to said body and plunger operable to reciprocate the plunger in said pumping chamber to pump grease through said pumping chamber and check valve into the grease dispensing member, [a member] means mounted on the base for supplying grease to the grease supply passage, the improvement [of] comprising: a threaded hole in said body open to the pumping chamber, a threaded stem located in said threaded hole, said stem having at least one side groove at one end thereof open to the pumping chamber and closed at the opposite end thereof, said stem when rotated in one direction opens the side groove to atmosphere whereby air in the pumping chamber and grease supply passage is bled therefrom and replaced with grease, said stem when rotated in a direction opposite the one direction closes the threaded hole to prevent grease from flowing out of the threaded hole and air from flowing into the pumping chamber.

14. (Amended) The grease gun of Claim 9 wherein: said stem has an inner end adjacent the pumping chamber and an outer end joined to said head, said side groove extended [form] from the inner end of the stem about halfway to the outer end thereof.

16. (Amended) In a grease gun having a body, a grease dispensing member joined to the body, a grease pumping chamber located in the body, a grease supply passage in the body

open to said pumping chamber to allow grease to flow into the pumping chamber, the improvement [of] comprising: an air bleed valve mounted on the body in communication with said pumping chamber and in alignment with the grease supply passage, said valve having an open position to allow air to bleed from the pumping chamber and grease supply passage and a closed position to prevent grease from flowing through the valve and air from flowing into the pumping chamber.

17. (Amended) [The grease gun of Claim 16 wherein:] In a grease gun having a body, a grease dispensing member joined to the body, a grease pumping chamber located in the body, a grease supply passage in the body open to said pumping chamber to allow grease to flow into the pumping chamber, the improvement comprising: an air bleed valve mounted on the body in communication with said pumping chamber and in alignment with the grease supply passage, said valve having an open position to allow air to bleed from the pumping chamber and grease supply passage and a closed position to prevent grease from flowing through the valve and air from flowing into the pumping chamber, said valve [has] having a threaded member having at least one passage open to the pumping chamber, and said body [has] having a threaded hole aligned with the grease supply passage for accommodating the threaded member, said threaded member being selectively rotatable between open and closed positions to open the one passage to atmosphere to allow air to bleed from the pumping chamber and grease supply passage and to close the one passage to prevent grease from flowing through the one passage and air from flowing through the one passage back into the pumping chamber.

22. (Amended) The grease gun of Claim 17 wherein: said threaded member has an inner end adjacent the pumping chamber and an outer end joined to said head, said one passage comprising at least one side groove extended [form] from the inner end of the threaded member about halfway to the outer end thereof.